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tracts in any county having a population in excess of 190,000 and in Galveston County, and to levy a hospital tax"; and

"AGAINST the Constitutional Amendment granting power to the Legislature to authorize the creation of county-wide Hospital Districts in any county having a population in excess of 190,000 and in Galveston County, and to levy a hospital tax."

Sec. 3. The Governor shall issue the necessary proclamation for said election and have the same published as required by the Constitution and laws of this State.

Passed the Senate, April 6, 1953: Yeas 29, Nays 0; April 21, 1953, Senate refused to concur in House amendments, and requested appointment of Conference Committee; April 27, 1953, request granted; May 5, 1953, Senate adopted Conference Report: Yeas 28, Nays 0; passed the House, April 15, 1953, with amendments: Yeas 132, Nays 8; and 1 present not voting; April 27, 1953, House granted request of Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; May 6, 1953, House adopted Conference Report: Yeas 123, Nays 6. Approved May 14, 1953.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

S. J. R. No. 4

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Texas to provide a four year term of office for elective district, county and precinct offices; staggering the terms of such offices by having certain holders of such offices be elected for terms of varying length in the November, 1954, general election; and providing for the necessary proclamation and election.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 9 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 9. There shall be a Clerk for the District Court of each county, who shall be elected by the qualified voters for State and county officers, and who shall hold his office for four years, subject to removal by information, or by indictment of a grand jury, and conviction of a petit jury. In case of vacancy, the Judge of the District Court shall have the power to appoint a Clerk, who shall hold until the office can be filled by election."

Sec. 2. That Section 15 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 15. There shall be established in each county in this State a County Court, which shall be a court of record; and there shall be elected in each county, by the qualified voters, a County Judge, who shall be well informed in the law of the State; shall be a conservator of the peace, and shall hold his office for four years, and until his successor shall be elected and qualified. He shall receive as compensation for his services such fees and perquisites as may be prescribed by law."

Sec. 3. That Section 18 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 18. Each organized county in the State now or hereafter existing, shall be divided from time to time, for the convenience of the people, into precincts, not less than four and not more than eight. Divisions shall be made by the Commissioners Court provided for by this Constitution. In each such precinct there shall be elected one Justice of the Peace and one Constable, each of whom shall hold his office for four years and until his successor shall be elected and qualified; provided that in any precinct in which there may be a city of 8,000 or more inhabitants, there shall be elected two Justices of the Peace. Each county

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shall in like manner be divided into four commissioners precincts in each of which there shall be elected by the qualified voters thereof one County Commissioner, who shall hold his office for four years and until his successor shall be elected and qualified. The County Commissioners so chosen, with the County Judge as presiding officer, shall compose the County Commissioners Court, which shall exercise such powers and jurisdiction over all county business, as is conferred by this Constitution and the laws of the State, or as may be hereafter prescribed."

Sec. 4. That Section 20 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 20. There shall be elected for each county, by the qualified voters, a County Clerk, who shall hold his office for four years, who shall be clerk of the County and Commissioners Courts and recorder of the county, whose duties, perquisites and fees of office shall be prescribed by the Legislature, and a vacancy in whose office shall be filled by the Commissioners Court, until the next general election; provided, that in counties having a population of less than 8,000 persons there may be an election of a single Clerk, who shall perform the duties of District and County Clerks."

Sec. 5. That Section 21 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 21. A County Attorney, for counties in which there is not a resident Criminal District Attorney, shall be elected by the qualified voters of each county, who shall be commissioned by the Governor, and hold his office for the term of four years. In case of vacancy the Commissioners Court of the county shall have the power to appoint a County Attorney until the next general election. The County Attorneys shall represent the State in all cases in the District and inferior courts in their respective counties; but if any county shall be included in a district in which there shall be a District Attorney, the respective duties of District Attorneys and County Attorneys shall in such counties be regulated by the Legislature. The Legislature may provide for the election of District Attorneys in such districts, as may be deemed necessary, and make provision for the compensation of District Attorneys and County Attorneys. District Attorneys shall hold office for a term of four years, and until their successors have qualified."

Sec. 6. That Section 23 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 23. There shall be elected by the qualified voters of each county a Sheriff, who shall hold his office for the term of four years, whose duties and perquisites, and fees of office, shall be prescribed by the Legislature, and vacancies in whose office shall be filled by the Commissioners Court until the next general election."

Sec. 7. That Section 14 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 14. Except as provided in Section 16 of this Article, there shall be elected by the qualified voters of each county, an Assessor and Collector of Taxes, who shall hold his office for four years and until his successor is elected and qualified; and such Assessor and Collector of Taxes shall perform all the duties with respect to assessing property for the purpose of taxation and of collecting taxes, as may be prescribed by the Legislature."

Sec. 8. That Section 16 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 16. The Sheriff of each county, in addition to his other duties, shall be the Assessor and Collector of Taxes therefor; but, in counties having 10,000 or more inhabitants, to be determined by the last pre-

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ceding census of the United States, an Assessor and Collector of Taxes shall be elected as provided in Section 14 of this Article, and shall hold office for four years and until his successor shall be elected and qualified."

Sec. 9. That Section 44 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 44. The Legislature shall prescribe the duties and provide for the election by the qualified voters of each county in this State, of a County Treasurer and a County Surveyor, who shall have an office at the county seat, and hold their office for four years, and until their successors are qualified; and shall have such compensation as may be provided by law."

Sec. 10. That Article V of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended by adding thereto Section 30, which shall read as follows:

"Section 30. The Judges of all Courts of county-wide jurisdiction heretofore or hereafter created by the Legislature of this State, and all Criminal District Attorneys now or hereafter authorized by the laws of this State, shall be elected for a term of four years, and shall serve until their successors have qualified."

Sec. 11. That Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended by adding thereto Section 64, which shall read as follows:

"Section 64. The office of Inspector of Hides and Animals, the elective district, county and precinct offices which have heretofore had terms of two years, shall hereafter have terms of four years; and the holders of such offices shall serve until their successors are qualified."

Sec. 12. That Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended by adding thereto a Section 65, which shall read as follows:

"Section 65. The following officers elected at the general election in November, 1954, and thereafter, shall serve for the full terms provided in this Constitution:

"(a) District Clerks; (b) County Clerks; (c) County Judges; (d) Judges of County Courts-at-Law, County Criminal Courts, County Probate Courts, and County Domestic Relations Courts; (e) County Treasurers; (f) Criminal District Attorneys; (g) County Surveyors; (h) Inspectors of Hides and Animals; (i) County Commissioners for Precincts Two and Four; (j) Justices of the Peace.

"Notwithstanding other provisions of this Constitution, the following officers elected at the general election in November, 1954, shall serve only for terms of two years: (a) Sheriffs; (b) Assessors and Collectors of Taxes; (c) District Attorneys; (d) County Attorneys; (e) Public Weighers; (f) County Commissioners for Precincts One and Three; (g) Constables. At subsequent elections, such officers shall be elected for the full terms provided in this Constitution.

"In any district, county or precinct where any of the aforementioned offices is of such nature that two or more persons hold such office, with the result that candidates file for 'Place No. 1,' 'Place No. 2,' etc., the officers elected at the general election in November, 1954, shall serve for a term of two years if the designation of their office is an uneven number, and for a term of four years if the designation of their office is an even number. Thereafter, all such officers shall be elected for the terms provided in this Constitution."

Sec. 13. The foregoing Constitutional Amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified voters of this State at a special election to be held throughout the State on the general election day of November, A. D., 1954, at which election all ballots shall have printed thereon:

"FOR the Constitutional Amendment providing a four year term of office for elective district, county and precinct offices.

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"AGAINST the Constitutional Amendment providing a four year term of office for elective district, county and precinct offices."

Sec. 14. The Governor shall issue the necessary proclamation for said election and shall have the same published as required by the Constitution and laws of this State.

Passed the Senate, March 30, 1953: Yeas 21, Nays 5; passed the House, April 15, 1953: Yeas 101, Nays 38.

Approved and filed April 21, 1953.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS—SALARIES OF CERTAIN STATE OFFICERS—PER DIEM OF MEMBERS OF LEGISLATURE

S. J. R. No. 5

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Texas permitting the Legislature to fix the salary of the Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Secretary of State; providing that such salary shall not be fixed in an amount less than that provided in the Constitution on January 1, 1953; fixing the per diem of the members of the Legislature at \$25.00 per day for 120 days only; providing for the submission of this Resolution to a vote of the people; and directing the Governor to issue the necessary proclamation.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 5 of Article 4 of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to hereafter read as follows:

"Section 5. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive as compensation for his services an annual salary in an amount to be fixed by the Legislature, and shall have the use and occupation of the Governor's Mansion, fixtures and furniture."

Sec. 2. That Section 22 of Article 4 of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to hereafter read as follows:

"Section 22. The Attorney General shall hold office for two years and until his successor is duly qualified. He shall represent the State in all suits and pleas in the Supreme Court of the State in which the State may be a party, and shall especially inquire into the charter rights of all private corporations, and from time to time, in the name of the State, take such action in the courts as may be proper and necessary to prevent any private corporation from exercising any power or demanding or collecting any species of taxes, tolls, freight or wharfage not authorized by law. He shall, whenever sufficient cause exists, seek a judicial forfeiture of such charters, unless otherwise expressly directed by law, and give legal advice in writing to the Governor and other executive officers, when requested by them, and perform such other duties as may be required by law. He shall reside at the seat of government during his continuance in office. He shall receive for his services an annual salary in an amount to be fixed by the Legislature."

Sec. 3. That Section 23 of Article 4 of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to hereafter read as follows:

"Section 23. The Comptroller of Public Accounts, the Treasurer, and the Commissioner of the General Land Office shall each hold office for the term of two years and until his successor is qualified; receive an annual salary in an amount to be fixed by the Legislature; reside at the Capital of the State during his continuance in office, and perform such duties as are or may be required by law. They and the Secretary of State shall not receive to their own use any fees, costs or perquisites of office.